

KELLEY DRYE & WARREN LLP

A LIMITED LIABILITY PARTNERSHIP

WASHINGTON HARBOUR, SUITE 400

3050 K STREET, NW

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20007-5108

(202) 342-8400

F A C S I M I L E

(202) 342-8451

www.kelleydrye.com

AUSTIN, TX
CHICAGO, IL
HOUSTON, TX
LOS ANGELES, CA
NEW YORK, NY
PARSIPPANY, NJ
STAMFORD, CT
BRUSSELS, BELGIUM

AFFILIATE OFFICE
MUMBAI, INDIA

DIRECT LINE: (202) 342-8518

EMAIL: tcohen@kelleydrye.com

January 12, 2017

Via ECFS

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Re: *Ex Parte* Filing of the American Cable Association on the Connect America Fund, WC Docket No. 10-90

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On January 10, 2017, Ross Lieberman, Senior Vice President of Government Affairs, American Cable Association (“ACA”), and Thomas Cohen, Kelley Drye & Warren LLP, Counsel to ACA, met with Nicholas Degani (Legal Advisor, Wireline) to Commissioner Pai to discuss the issue of assigning weights to different performance tiers in the Phase II competitive bidding process (or auction), on which the Federal Communications Commission sought comment in the May, 2016 Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking on Phase II of the Connect America Fund (“CAF”).¹ In the meeting, ACA representatives reviewed their prior filings that discussed methods by which the Commission might develop accurate weights for the four performance tiers. ACA has recommended that a key objective of any method should be to maximize participation in the process, including by smaller, experienced wireline providers, who would be bidding to provide higher performance service in areas where they had no infrastructure.²

¹ *Connect America Fund et al.*, WC Docket No. 10-90 *et al.*, Report and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, FCC 16-64, ¶¶ 205-229 (rel. May 26, 2016).

² *See, e.g., Ex Parte* Letter from Thomas Cohen, Counsel to the American Cable Association, to Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary, Federal Communications Commission, WC Docket No. 10-90 (July 1, 2016).

KELLEY DRYE & WARREN LLP

Marlene H. Dortch
January 12, 2017
Page Two

This letter is being filed electronically pursuant to Section 1.1206 of the Commission's rules.

Sincerely,



Thomas Cohen
Kelley Drye & Warren, LLP
3050 K Street N.W.
Washington, DC 20007
202-342-8518
tcohen@kelleydrye.com
Counsel for the American Cable Association

cc: Nicholas Degani